

Three Embarcadero Center
26th FloorSan Francisco
California 94111T: 415-217-6000
F: 415-434-0646Austin, TX
Newport Beach, CA
San Jose, CAskjerven morrill LLP

Date: May 14, 2002

To: Thao P. Le

Fax Telephone #: 703-308-7722

Office Telephone #:

cc:

Fax Telephone #:

Office Telephone #:

From: K. Alison de Runtz

Your Ref.: 09/783,069

Our Ref.: M-9727 US

Date Sent:

Time Sent:

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Three Embarcadero Ctr.
28th FloorSan Francisco
California 94111T: 415-217-6000
F: 415-434-0646Austin, TX
San Jose, CA
Newport Beach, CAskjerven morrill
macpherson LLP

Docket No.: M-9727 US

January 4, 2002

Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: Applicants: Robert J. Small and Xiaowei Shang
Assignee: EKC Technology, Inc.
Title: Chemical-Mechanical Planarization Using Ozone
Serial No.: 09/783,069
Examiner: Le, Thao P. Filed: February 13, 2001
Docket No.: M-9727 US Group Art Unit: 2818

Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the following documents in the above-identified application:

- (1) Return Receipt Postcard;
- (2) This Transmittal Letter (in duplicate);
- (3) Response to Restriction Requirement;
- (4) Preliminary Amendment;
- (5) Substitute Specification (marked); and
- (6) Substitute Specification (unmarked).

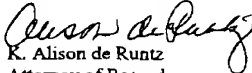
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Respectfully submitted,


K. Alison de Runtz
Attorney of Record
Reg. No. 37,119

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Robert J. Small and Xiaowei Shang
Assignee: EKC Technology, Inc.
Title: Chemical-Mechanical Planarization Using Ozone
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San Francisco, California
January 4, 2002

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This is in response to a restriction requirement mailed on December 12, 2001 and setting a shortened statutory period for response which expires on January 12, 2002. In view of the following remarks, reconsideration is respectfully requested. However, prior to such reconsideration, entry and consideration of the preliminary amendment submitted herewith are requested.

REMARKS

The Examiner has required restriction between an Invention I and an Invention II identified in the action. Invention II is provisionally elected with traverse. Applicants traverse on the ground that it is not believed to be too burdensome to search and examine the entire application. MPEP 803. Applicants have noted the Examiner's classifications of the identified Inventions I and II, but in view of the small number of pending claims, believe that the burden of searching same is not serious or onerous. Reconsideration of the restriction requirement is thus earnestly requested.

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EV 052132687 US

Respectfully submitted,

K. Alison de Runtz
K. Alison de Runtz
Attorney of Record
Reg. No. 37,119